# **voting on election day:**

Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.  Anyone in line at 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote. A voter’s polling place and districts are found on the blue voter registration card, at [SCVotes.gov](http://SCVotes.gov), or [VOTE411.org](http://vote411.org).

## **Nonpartisan voter Information:**

[www.lwvcharleston.org](http://www.lwvcharleston.org) -- Visit Election Central, with forums and other election resources. You may also call us at 843-766-5416 or email vote@lwvcharleston.org.

**SCVotes.gov**—South Carolina State Election Commission website

**Berkeley County Election Office** — 843-719-4056

**Charleston County Election Office** — 843-744-VOTE (8683)

**Dorchester County Election Office** — 843-563-0132

[VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org)— LWV’s voter information website includes candidate guides, polling place locator, voter registration, and a personalized ballot.



## http://lwv.org/files/pictures/VOTE411_QR.jpg

## **ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS?**

Call one of these hotlines for support:  
1-866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)   
1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español)  
1-888-API-VOTE (Asian multilingual assistance)  
1-844-418-1682 (Arabic)

*The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

# LWVCharlestonArea_rgb.jpg

# **VOTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

***Your Vote Matters. Your Future Depends on It.***

# **how to register to vote in sc:**

If you are a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident of your county, and 18 years of age on or by Election Day, you may register, at least 30 days before Election Day:

In Person: Visit your County Voter Registration Office to complete forms and provide identification.

Online: Register online at [SCVotes.gov](http://SCVotes.gov). However, online voter registration requires that you have an SC DMV-issued driver’s license or DMV photo ID card. If you have moved, you must first update your address with DMV at scdmvonline.com

By Mail: Call your County Voter Registration Office for a form, or download a form from [SCVotes.gov](http://SCVotes.gov) and submit by mail.

At a DMV, Department of Social Services, as well as other public assistance and disability agency branch offices: Complete the voter registration application and show proper ID. A S.C. Voter Registration Card without photo will be mailed to you. The card will state where you are to vote. You can go to your county election office to exchange the non-photo card for a photo ID.

## **voter reg. for college students:**

You may register to vote in the county where you reside while attending college, or at your prior address. If you register at your prior address, be aware of absentee ballot regulations and procedures. You must use a street address. Ask for dorm address at your college registration office.

You can use your student ID to register but not for voting. Go to [www.scvotes.org](http://www.scvotes.org) to download a voter registration form to mail in, to register on-line, or to change your voting address.

## **voter reg. for ex-offenders:**

South Carolina residents who have completely served their sentences, including probation or parole, CAN register to vote. To register, the applicant must submit a new voter registration application to his or her county voter registration office.  Go to [SCVotes.gov](http://SCVotes.gov) for more information.

## **voter reg. for persons without a permanent residence:**

If you are currently without a permanent address, you can register to vote with the help of a public or non-profit agency providing services. Complete the paper voter registration form using the agency’s address. Send this, along with a letter from the agency, to your county election office. Your voter registration card will be mailed to the agency and the agency will get it to you. On Election Day, you can vote on a voting machine at your polling location. You do not need to vote on a provisional ballot.

## **identification to vote in sc:**

In South Carolina, in-person voters must show one of the following forms of ID, which cannot be expired: a passport, military ID card, a driver’s license or photo ID card issued by the S.C. DMV, a photo voter registration card obtained from the voter’s county election office, or a SC concealed weapons permit.

If you can’t get one, bring your paper voter registration card without a photo with you to the polls. This will allow you to state why you don’t have a photo ID (work/school schedule, lack transportation, caring for family, etc.) and vote a provisional ballot that will count.

Voters who claim reasonable impediments will cast provisional ballots and don’t need to appear at their county election office. Their votes will be counted.

But voters who forget to bring their photo ID to the polling place and cast provisional ballots do need to present their photo ID to their county election office. If they do not, their votes won’t be counted.

Please Note: If you registered to vote by mail, are voting for the first time either in person or absentee by mail, and do not have one of the required forms of photo ID, nor submitted proof of identity with your registration application, you’ll need to show additional ID. This ID may be a student photo ID, current utility bill, paycheck, or bank statement that shows your name and address in the county where you are registered to vote. Voters who are 65 and over, voters with disabilities (self-declared), members of the U.S. Uniformed Services or Merchant Marines and their families, and U.S. Citizens residing outside the U.S. are exempt from this requirement.

# **how to obtain a free sc voter identification card:**

From the County Voter Registration and Elections Office: A voter may obtain a free photo voter registration card by presenting a current non-photo voter registration card at his or her county Voter Registration Office. Or, a citizen who is already registered may verbally confirm his or her date of birth and the last four digits of his or her Social Security number, or present any photo ID, utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows his or her name and address. This card will not expire, and may be used as long as the photo is recognizable.

From SC Department of Motor Vehicles: A citizen obtaining a free photo ID through the S.C. DMV must present a certified birth certificate and social security card to any DMV branch. Additional documents may be required. A photo ID obtained through the DMV must be renewed every 5 years (every 10 years for driver’s license). Go to [www.scdmvonline.com](http://www.scdmvonline.com) or 803-896-5000 for details.

# **absentee voting:**

A voter can vote via absentee ballot in two ways:

* By Mail – which does not require a photo ID,
* In Person at a voter’s county election office or early absentee voting site– which does require a photo ID. Check your County Election Office for schedule.

**There are 16 acceptable reasons for voting absentee.** See SCVotes.gov for further information on this option. The basic process for voting via absentee ballot by mail follows.

* Request your absentee ballot application or the application of an immediate family member online at scvotes.org or by contacting your county election office. Apply as far in advance as possible! After printing and signing the application, it must be returned by mail, email, or fax. Or, make the request for yourself or your immediate family member from your county voter registration office by phone, mail, email, or fax anytime during the year of the election. You will be mailed an application.
* Return the completed application to your county election office as quickly as possible, and no later than 5:00 PM on the 4th day prior to the election. You may return the application by mail, email, or fax.
* You will be mailed an absentee ballot.
* When you receive the ballot, mark it as you want to vote. Follow instructions on the ballot exactly. Anyone who knows you may sign as the witness.
* Return the ballot to your county voter registration office, in person or by mail. The ballot must be received at the county voter registration office by 7 P.M. on the day of the election.
* Use the correct address for your county voter registration office and include your name and address as written on your voter registration card.